

ABSTRACT

In a communicating apparatus which makes speech and image communication, a proper communication path is selected by a simple construction of a low cost, thereby enabling data communication of a high speed and high reliability to be performed. If a telephone number of an opponent station corresponds to an VoIP network, a communicating apparatus obtains an IP address of the opponent station from an SIP proxy server and sends and receives communication data on an IP network to/from the opponent station by a file sending/receiving protocol such as FTP, HTTP, or the like. If the telephone number of an opponent station does not correspond to the VoIP, image data is facsimile-modulated, a digital encoding method (64 kbps PCM encoding) suitable for a facsimile modulating method is selected, and an analog facsimile signal obtained by the facsimile modulation is digitally encoded and sent to the opponent station through a media gateway for executing analog/digital signal conversion between the IP network and a public line network.